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B O R O U G H O F T I P T O N

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Dr. Eric C. Downer)

including that of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

(Mr. B. H. Acton, M.S.I.A.)

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER

1942.

Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Sedgley Road West,
Tipton.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Tipton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my second Annual Report for the year 1942. In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health it is greatly abridged and is in reality an interim report.

Attention has been drawn in special articles to some of the more salient parts of the work.

I have to record the resignation of my late Assistant, Dr. E.P. McWhirter which took place in May. Dr. McWhirter was a loyal colleague who endeared herself to the staff and to many members of the public of this town. Our regret at her departure is tempered by the fact that she has obtained promotion in her profession. She has the good wishes of us all.

I have to report that her successor Dr. E.G. Henderson took over duty early in June.

In all other respects the staff remains the same as in 1941. I most gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to them for loyal and good work throughout the year.

I should like to thank you, Mr. Mayor, the Chairman and members of the Public Health, Maternity and Midwives Committees and the members of the Council jointly for their encouragement and interest in the work and the support which they have given me throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemon,
Your obedient Servant,

ERIC C. DOWNER.

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F .

The following staff changes took place during the year:-

Dr. E.P. McWhirter resigned on obtaining the post of M.O.H., Darlaston. She was succeeded in June by Dr. E.G. Henderson, late Assistant M.O.H. Belfast. Mrs. M. Watson, (nee Breatt) resigned from her post as clerk at the Central Clinic to join the N.F.S. and was eventually replaced by Miss Jose Stanford. Miss Freda Hodgetts was appointed as clerk to the S.M.S. in September. Miss Evelyn Stanton, Dental Attendant resigned to join the W.A.A.F.

S T A T I S T I C S .

Area (in acres)	2617
Population (Census 1931)	36814
Registrar General's Estimate of the population	
Mid-year 1942.	35620
No. of inhabited houses, December, 1942 approx.	9250
Rateable Value (31st March, 1942)	£144,967
Sum represented by a penny rate	£550

The following figures are provided by the Registrar General

	M.	F.	Total
<u>Live Births</u>			

Legitimate	371	375	746
Illegitimate	8	2	10

Birth Rate per 1000 estimated resident population	21.22
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	M.	F.	Total
Still Births	13	14	27

Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (live and still) Births	21.97
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	M.	F.	Total
<u>Deaths</u>			

Deaths	229	201	430
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Death Rate per 1000 estimated resident population	12.07
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<u>Maternal Mortality Rate</u>	0.38
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<u>Infantile Mortality Rate</u>	74.17
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The number of visits paid during the year by Health Visitors:-

to expectant mothers	First Visits	208
	Total Visits	305
To children under 1 year of age	First Visits	776
	Total Visits	2184
to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	Total Visits	3546

Attendances at all Welfare Centres.

No. of attendances by	<u>Central Clinic</u>		<u>Burnt</u>	<u>Ocker</u>	<u>Tipton</u>
	<u>Session 1.</u>	<u>Session 2.</u>	<u>Tree</u>	<u>Hill</u>	<u>Green</u>
1. Children under 1 year	2275	653	1023	1172	2967
2. Children between 1 and 5 years	1275	346	543	768	697

The total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who on the date of their first attendance were under 1 year of age was 507 representing 67.07% of the notified live births.

Defects found in children attending the Centres.

Debility	6
Malnutrition	2
Rickets	15
Overfeeding	23
Improper feeding	8
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	5
Skin diseases	24
Tonsils and Adenoids	3
Phimosis	7
Squint	9
Umbilical hernia	19
Crippling defects	4
Eye defects	16
Inguinal hernia	1
Miscellaneous	118
Constipation	25

The number of children under 5 years treated at the Minor Ailment Clinics was 226 of whom 110 were new cases and 16 were old cases. The total attendances numbered 274.

Children treated at Ophthalmic Clinic.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Treatment recommended</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Squint	Spectacles prescribed	11
? Squint	Spectacles not prescribed	11
Corneal Ulcer	Clinic treatment	1
Chalazion cyst	" "	1
Conjunctivitis	" "	4
Obstructed tear duct	" "	1
" " "	Referred to Hospital	3
Other conditions	Treatment advised	1
" "	" " (for observation)	6
Retests	Advised	5
		<hr/> 44 <hr/>

There were 5 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the year and of these 1 was removed to Hospital. In no case was vision impaired.

The Dental Clinic for children under 5 and for nursing and expectant mothers was held fortnightly because the numbers coming for treatment were so small. The number of children seen by the Dentist was 7 and total attendances for under fives were 8.

The number of children on the Child Life Protection Register was 1 and the number of persons receiving children for reward at the end of the year was 1.

The Ante-natal Clinic is held on Friday afternoons. 314 women attended for examination during the year. The attendances totalled 613.

Under arrangements made with West Bromwich Corporation 55 women were sent to Hallam Hospital for treatment for conditions complicating pregnancy.

<u>Midwives.</u>	<u>District Midwives</u>	<u>Private Midwives</u>	<u>Others</u>
No. of Midwives practising at the end of the year	4	4	2
No. of cases attended during the Year:-			
(a) as Midwives	214	382	15
(b) as Maternity Nurses	4	44	1

During the year Midwives summoned medical aid under the Midwives Act 1918, Section 14, Subsection 1, in 259 cases.

There were 7 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year of which 5 were removed to Hospital.

Three women died in consequence of childbirth but from conditions other than sepsis representing a rate of 0.38% of live and still births.

The Maternal Death Rate per 1000 live and still births was 0.38

Dental treatment for ante-natal and post-natal mothers was as follows:-

No. of ante-natal cases seen by dentist)	
No. of post-natal new cases seen by dentist	)	18
Total attendances	...	33

Detailed Causes of Death.

Disease	M.	F.	Total
Typhoid	1	-	1
Whooping Cough	1	4	5
Diphtheria	1	3	4
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	16	12	28
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	-	3
Influenza	4	2	6
Measles	1	1	2
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio- Encephalitis	1	-	1
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M)	2		2
Uterus (F)		2	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	9	6	15
Cancer of breast		2	2
Cancer of all other sites	19	19	38
Diabetes	1	2	3
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	13	24	37
Heart Disease	48	44	92
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	5	6
Bronchitis	15	9	24
Pneumonia	21	6	27
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	-	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	4	3	7
Diarrhoea under 2 years	5	6	11
Appendicitis	1	1	2
Other Digestive diseases	1	1	2
Nephritis	7	6	13
Other Maternal Causes		2	2
Premature Birth	9	5	14
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	5	10	15
Suicide	3	-	3
Road Traffic Accidents	6	2	8
Other violent causes	9	3	12
All other Causes	20	21	41

The above Table of Deaths is given by the Registrar General.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of Notifiable Diseases. These differ to a small degree from the Registrar General's figures.

Disease	Number of cases notified	Number of Deaths (Registrar General's figures)
Scarlet Fever	105	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	5	-
Diphtheria	100	4
Measles	425	2
Whooping Cough	198	5
Pneumonia	133	27
Erysipelas	25	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	-

Analysis of notified cases of Infectious Disease
according to Age Groups.

	Scarlet Fever	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Encephalitis Lethargica	Epidemic Diarrhoea
Under 1 year	-	-	2	23	23	7	-	-	5	-	1
1 to 2 years	-	-	1	52	22	5	-	-	-	-	-
2 to 3	7	-	6	62	24	5	-	-	-	1	-
3 to 4	7	-	13	50	27	4	-	-	-	-	-
4 to 5	14	-	13	64	35	4	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 10	42	2	36	171	61	17	1	-	-	-	-
10 to 15	25	-	19	1	3	7	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 20	3	2	9	1	-	9	3	-	-	-	-
20 to 35	4	1	1	1	1	25	5	7	-	-	-
35 to 45	2	-	-	-	-	23	5	-	-	-	-
45 to 65	1	-	-	-	1	25	10	-	-	-	-
over 65	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

Tuberculosis												
Age Periods	New Cases						Deaths					
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total		
0-1 yr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
1-5 yrs.	1	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-		
5-15	1	2	2	-	5	-	-	1	-	1		
15-25	9	14	1	-	24	5	5	-	-	10		
25-35	12	2	1	1	16	3	3	1	-	7		
35-45	6	1	-	-	7	2	2	1	-	5		
45-55	7	3	-	-	10	3	2	-	-	5		
55-65	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1		
over 65	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	4		

GENERAL HEALTH OF THE PUBLIC AND INCIDENCE OF DISEASE.

The general health of the public of Tipton in the latter half of the third year and the commencement of the fourth year of war remains good. In our view **this is primarily** due to the splendid measures taken by the Ministry of Food and the low incidence of Infectious Disease. Long hours of work, overcrowded houses and public transport vehicles, defective ventilation due partly to unhygienic black-out arrangements, and early in the year, the third of a series of very severe winters, have not been able to outweigh the strong resistance of a people on the whole adequately fed and clothed and earning good money. The system of points rationing and its steady extension to such things as tinned fruit and vegetables have gone far to ensure reasonable access to vitamins for all families and neither the adverse factors alluded to above nor the strain and anxiety undergone by some owing to the unfavourable trend of the war during 1942 have triumphed over this far-seeing and fine piece of Governmental organisation.

Deaths from all causes showed a considerable decrease in 1942. It is felt that the general health of the Borough shows cause for much thankfulness.

As might be anticipated respiratory disease shows a slight increase e.g. Pneumonia 133 as against 122 (deaths, 33 as against 27). New cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were 66 as against 67. A feature of the year was that Measles and Whooping Cough which were large in numbers were of low severity and only in a few cases resulted in respiratory complications.

Since the opening of Moxley Hospital near Wednesbury, the hospitalisation of cases of serious infectious disease has proceeded more smoothly, only once was it impossible to hospitalise a case of Diphtheria. The situation as regards the hospitalisation of Scarlet Fever cases and of Measles cases complicated by Pneumonia is not yet optimum, but the West Midlands Joint Hospital Board have made provision which gives promise of some relief in the future.

As regards Pulmonary Tuberculosis difficulties in obtaining nursing and domestic staff have led to delay in the admission of cases to Sanatoria. The new campaign to increase the flow of entrants to the nursing profession and the possibilities of the direction of domestic staff by the Ministry of Labour may relieve this unfortunate state of affairs.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Owing to the setting up of the National Fire Service, it was no longer possible for the Tipton Fire Brigade to run the Borough Ambulance as heretofore, and an arrangement has been entered into whereby the Borough Ambulance is maintained and operated by the Local Civil Defence Ambulance Service under the Local Sub-controller of Civil Defence. This arrangement has worked on the whole well, but it is not clear why the town's Ambulance Service as an integral part of the town's Public Health Scheme should not come within the jurisdiction of the Public Health Committee. It was further resolved in June that the town's Ambulance be used as and when necessary for the conveying of Tipton patients from Infectious Disease Hospitals to their homes in Tipton. Provision was later made for the conveyance of children to and from the Guest Hospital in connection with operations for Tonsils and Adenoids.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Circular 2677 of the Ministry of Health giving particulars of a central publicity campaign was submitted and it was resolved in October to co-operate with Wolverhampton and a

number of such Local Authorities in a press campaign.

Circular 2713 of the Ministry of Health was considered in December and a scheme making the Health Visitors responsible for the immunisation of children under five in their districts was set up.

<u>683</u>	children 5 - 15 years of age and
<u>513</u>	children under 5 were immunised in 1942

SCABIES.

In January the Scabies Order 1941 and measures necessary to implement it in Tipton, were the subject of a report to the Public Health Committee. The Medical Officer of Health was authorised to go ahead with the work, and an attendant has been instructing adults how to cleanse themselves and cleansing scabetic children since February. The policy followed has been to instruct the people to cleanse themselves and parents to cleanse their children rather than to do the job for them. At the end of the year 24 adults, 887 school children and 188 from the M. & C. W. Clinic have been cleansed. It is regretted that I must report that Scabies is still prevalent in the town.

The Committee at the same time authorised the provision of a steam disinfecter for the town and the Ministry of Health was approached for the necessary permit. The matter of the disinfecter at the end of the year was still under negotiation with the Ministry.

CHILDBIRTH IN INSANITARY AND OVERCROWDED HOMES.

The Committee viewed with anxiety the birth of children in insanitary and overcrowded houses and at the end of the year the Council was in negotiation with the Staffordshire Public Assistance Committee with a view to the hospitalising in Hospitals belonging to that Committee of maternity cases in houses certified by the Medical Officer of Health to be insanitary or otherwise unsuitable for confinement. A point emphasised in the negotiations was that the procedure prior to admission should be conducted by the Council's Public Health Department and that it should not be necessary for these patients to attend at the Local Public Assistance Office or to receive visits from the Public Assistance Officer. It was felt that should this be necessary many mothers would be reluctant to avail themselves of the scheme.

HOME HELPScheme.

Enquiries from the Ministry of Health followed by Circular 1729 of the Ministry resulted in a report being made to the Maternity & Child Welfare Committee on the practicability of such services. The Committee, while sympathetic, felt that with the present demands on local women power it was impracticable to inaugurate such a service.

LAYETTES AND CLOTHING COUPONS ISSUED.

During the year 58 Layettes were issued to deserving cases, the majority of whom were wives of Tipton men serving in the Navy, Army and Air Force.

During 1942, 739 books of clothing coupons were issued to expectant mothers by this Department. Most valuable information was obtained by this early notification of pregnancy and it was used to ensure ante-natal care and proper environment for the confinement of many mothers. It is to be hoped that notification of pregnancy to the Welfare Authority will remain after the war.

WAR-TIME DAY NURSERY.

The Council at its meeting on the 6th January, 1942 set up a Sub-Committee of the Maternity & Child Welfare Committee to consider the provision of a War-Time Day Nursery in Tipton and to confer with any Sub-Committee appointed by the Education Committee regarding Nursery Classes in Public Elementary Schools.

At the same Committee the Medical Officer of Health was authorised to take action regarding the scheme for Registered Daily Guardians of children of war workers.

The Council further delegated to the Maternity & Child Welfare Committee its powers and duties with regard to children of women war workers, the provision of War-Time Nurseries and the scheme for Registered Daily Guardians.

By April, it had become apparant that the Daily Guardians scheme was not going to work, only two mothers having applied to have their children under guardianship and only one Daily Guardian having offered her services. In the meantime, an investigation had been made in which the Town Clerk approached the heads of various industrial concerns to enquire if, in the view of their work people, the provision of day nurseries would enable more mothers to take up work. Some 53 firms were approached but the demands seemed to be limited to only a very small number. In April, the Sub-Committee set up for the purpose decided to accept the suggestions of the Ministries of Labour and Health to open a War-Time Nursery in Tipton. The Public were informed of this project in the Press and a waiting list of some 25 children was compiled. Memoranda were submitted to the Committee on the administration and running of a War-Time Nursery and a site was obtained at the corner of Horseley Road and Toll End Road and this site was approved by the Ministry of Health and by His Majesty's Inspector. Construction of the Nursery began in October but owing to one delay after another in the delivery of materials the Nursery was still in the course of erection at the end of the year.

It is too early yet to say whether this exceedingly expensive experiment will result in either increased industrial production or improved child health, or whether the actual opening of a Nursery will create a demand for such provision, which has proved up to the present to be very small.

TIPTON NURSING ASSOCIATION.

A grant of £200 was made by the Council to the Tipton and District Nursing Association for the year ending 31st March 1942, in respect of general nursing work subject to a copy of the Association's accounts apportioned between General Nursing and Midwifery Services being submitted to the Council.

DUDLEY GUEST HOSPITAL.

The Council, in February, decided in pursuance of Section 181 (3) of the Public Health Act, 1936, to give a subscription of £21 per annum to the Dudley Guest Hospital

TYPHUS FEVER.

The Council decided in March to purchase 12 suits of the special protective clothing and gloves recommended by the Ministry of Health for the handling of cases of Typhus Fever. We are thankful to report that no such case has occurred.

BYE-LAW.

The Council, in November, submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs for confirmation, a Bye-Law prohibiting nuisances contrary to public decency. Confirmation of this Bye-Law was reported to the Council in December.

BRITISH RESTAURANTS.

A considerable forward stride in provision for the nourishment of the public in war-time and the maintenance of Public Health was taken when the first Tipton British Restaurant was opened on the premises of the Co-operative Society at Owen Street on the 28th August, 1942. This Restaurant was provided on converted premises with a retiring room, wash place and lavatory with hot and cold water for the staff, and with lavatory and cloakroom accommodation for both sexes of the public but unfortunately without hot water.

The Restaurant has been of immense service to the public living or working in the congested area round Owen Street. In addition to providing hot mid-day nourishment it has probably saved a good deal of unnecessary transport and exposure.

The number of meals served during the last three months of the year were:-

	<u>In the Restaurant.</u>	<u>Cash and Carry.</u>
October	1364	302
November	1152	457
December	1490	389

A glance at the map will show that this Restaurant does not provide any facilities for the northern and eastern parts of the town, but the Committee authorised one at Great Bridge in September 1942, and at the end of the year this was under construction. Further provision at Dudley Port and at Princes End are also contemplated. When these have been provided the Borough will have an accessible and adequate provision.

Concurrently with the establishment of the British Restaurants very considerable provision of meals for school children was made by the opening of two main cooking centres and the distribution of hot meals in special containers. More detailed comment on this will be given in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer.

MORTUARY.

The Mortuary is still regrettably situated at Bedford House, next door to the Maternity & Child Welfare and School Clinic. The Cemetery and Mortuary Superintendent, Mr. H.L. Allen, is responsible for this Mortuary and a female attendant is employed. The Committee resolved early in the year to provide rubber coats for Doctors visiting the Mortuary to perform post mortem examinations. Following a complaint in November from a Doctor regarding the condition of the Mortuary and the instruments and lack of disinfectants, the Committee further resolved that the Medical Officer of Health, as regards such equipment and disinfectants, supervise the work of the Mortuary Superintendent.

SICK PAY SCHEME FOR COUNCIL'S EMPLOYEES.

In March 1942, the Council resolved to inaugurate a Sick Pay Scheme for officers and employees. The scheme for employees other than officers came into force on 1st April, 1942, and for officers on 1st May, 1942. It has since been determined that this Sick Pay Scheme does not apply to the Medical Officer of Health, Chief Sanitary Inspector, the Additional Sanitary Inspectors and probably the Borough Surveyor.

Among the clauses of this Sick Pay Scheme is one in which the Council reserve the right to have an employee claiming payment under the scheme, examined by the Medical Officer of Health. The Council do not make a medical examination the condition of entry into their service or of entry into the Superannuation Scheme.

In practice, the Medical Officer of Health keeps in touch with the Doctors attending these employees and that aspect of the scheme is working very smoothly.

It is not within our province to comment on the merits of the scheme as such.

ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE MEETING AT WEST BROMWICH.

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector were delegated to attend a Sessional Meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute held at West Bromwich on 10th October, when two papers were read on "Post War, Public Health and Sanitary Problems". In the afternoon the Institute visited the Government Centralised Slaughterhouse of Messrs. Devis, Great Bridge, and were received by the Chairman and Messrs. Devis and conducted round. High appreciation was expressed.

S L U M C L E A R A N C E .

JOINT REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND THE CHIEF
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

No houses were dealt with under the Housing Act, 1936 during the year. The following table shows the total number of houses dealt with under the Housing Act from 1931 the commencement of the Scheme to 31st December, 1942.

	Total no. of houses	Total no. demol- ished	Total no. of persons displaced
91 Clearance areas	1321	1270	6201
Individual unfit Houses and Caravans in respect of which demolition orders have been made	488	457	2305
Parts of buildings in respect of which closing orders have been made	11	1	50
Individual unfit houses in respect of which undertakings have been accepted	3	-	18
Individual unfit houses and Caravans demolished in anticipation of demolition orders.	5	5	23
Totals	1828	1733	8597

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary administration of the Borough for the year 1942. This report has been considerably curtailed in accordance with Ministry of Health instructions.

During the year a considerable amount of time has been devoted to the inspection of tinned foods at Shops, Canteens and other food premises in addition to the meat inspection at the Government Centralised Slaughterhouse. Another noteworthy feature has been the large number of grossly overcrowded houses reported or discovered in the course of routine inspection.

The Department experienced a certain amount of trouble and received a number of complaints in respect of unsatisfactory milk supplies and generally speaking the cause of the trouble was found at the Producer's end. The Dairies, however, were regularly visited, suggestions made where necessary to ensure a cleaner milk supply which were complied with. Unfortunately, Dairy men are carrying on under difficult conditions especially in regard to labour available for carrying on the trade.

The problem of remedying the various sanitary defects to houses reported is still very difficult owing to the lack of labour and materials, but a large amount of work was carried out by the Local Authority at the request of property owners. The condition of a certain number of old, worn out houses included in the Slum Clearance Programme has rapidly deteriorated and one can only endeavour to see that the most urgent defects are dealt with.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their confidence; the Medical Officer of Health for his encouragement and support and the whole of the staff for their splendid service.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

G.H.ACTON.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

The total number of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors totalled 4395. In addition 442 preliminary notices and 44 statutory notices were served under the Public Health Acts.

The total number of complaints registered during the year was 565 as against 368 in 1941.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	300
Re-inspections	1498
Centralised Slaughterhouse	542
Visits under the Factory Act	54
Offensive Trades	6
Tents, Vans and Sheds	5
Visits re defective and obstructed drains	134
Food premises	129
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops	23
Markets	51
Petroleum Regulations	88
Visits under the Shops Acts	19
Infectious and Contagious Diseases	352
Vermin infested houses	75
Miscellaneous Inspections	1094
Total	4395

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No. of visits made by Sanitary Inspectors	352
No. of disinfections carried out	202

DISINFESTATION.

During the year the household effects of 13 families removed to Council Houses were treated with H.C.N. In addition 21 Council Houses and 6 privately owned dwelling houses infested with vermin were treated with insecticides. The Department also disinfested 45 A.R.P and Firewatching premises connected with various ~~individual~~ *industrial* undertakings.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During the year 542 visits were paid to the Centralised Slaughterhouse by the Sanitary Inspectors who are all qualified Meat Inspectors. The number of animals inspected was 47,542 made up as follows:-

Beasts	...	...	...	5671
Calves	...	...	...	2806
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	32532
Pigs	...	...	...	6531
Goats	...	...	...	2

In addition 110 visits were paid to Food Shops, Canteens, and other premises for the inspection of unsound food.

The total amount of meat and other foodstuffs condemned as being unfit for human consumption was as follows:-

Description of food	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
Butchers Meat from Centralised Slaughterhouse.	47	5	2	3
Bacon.		2	2	16
Cheese, Butter and Margarine.		2	-	20
Fish, Poultry and Rabbits.		1	1	19
Sausage.			1	6
Eggs.				15
Miscellaneous			2	12
<u>CANNED GOODS.</u>				
Canned Meat.		6	3	11
" Fruit		5	0	1
" Vegetables			2	2
" Milk		2	3	25
" Fish				22
" Jams		2	-	26
TOTALS	47	28	6	15

The following information has been supplied by Major Green, Veterinary Officer in respect of Sausage Factory, situated in the Borough which is under his supervision.

No. of pigs slaughtered and inspected ... 2846
Total amount of meat condemned:-

Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
2	14	1	4

The killing of animals at this Slaughterhouse was discontinued in September, 1942.

The undermentioned table shows the number of carcasses inspected and condemned at the Government Centralised Slaughterhouse. Glancing at the table one notes with gratification the decline in the percentage of Cattle inspected affected with Tuberculosis. The other noticeable feature is the increased percentage of the animals inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis, this is undoubtedly the result of a rapid increase in the number of animals affected with parasitic diseases.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED (Return as required by the Ministry of Health)					
	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	4573 (5741)	1098 (1625)	2806 (2407)	32532 (32451)	6531 (13365)
Number inspected	4573 (5741)	1098 (1625)	2806 (2407)	32532 (32451)	6531 (13365)
<u>ALL DISEASES except TUBERCULOSIS</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	Nil (6)	16 (15)	5 (6)	41 (73)	10 (30)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	261 (341)	237 (263)	23 (19)	1787 (1043)	342 (537)
Per-centage of the no. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	5.7 (6.0)	23.0 (16.8)	1.0 (1.0)	5.6 (5.4)	5.4 (4.2)
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	4 (4)	10 (25)	Nil (2)	Nil (Nil)	5 (7)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	232 (362)	439 (806)	17 (7)	Nil (Nil)	568 (1050)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.2 (6.4)	40.9 (50.2)	0.61 (0.37)	Nil (Nil)	8.8 (7.9)

(Government Centralised Slaughterhouse catering for the Boroughs of Oldbury, Rowley Regis, Tipton and West Bromwich).

Figures in brackets are for the year 1941.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

42 applications for the renewal of the existing licenses to slaughter or stun animals under the above Act were granted. No new applications were received.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER.

6 cows were sent in to the Centralised Slaughterhouse for slaughter by Veterinary Officers under the above Order and in two instances the animals were found to be affected with Generalised Tuberculosis and in the remaining four with Localised Tuberculosis.

FARMS AND DAIRIES.

During the year regular visits were paid to the farm and dairies and the premises were found on the whole to be in a clean and satisfactory condition. At the instigation of this Department, structural alterations were carried out to one dairy and in three instances alterations to the processing plants were undertaken to ensure a cleaner milk supply.

The number of licenses issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1938, was 18. There is only one registered cow keeper in the Borough.

MILK SUPPLY.

The following table gives the results of the Bacteriological examination of eleven samples of milk taken by this Authority.

Designation	Methylene Blue Test		Bacillus Coli		Phosphatase Test		Bacteria per C.C.	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Absent	Present	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Above 100,000	below 100,000
Accredited	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	3
Tuberculin Tested	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Undesignated	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	1	2	4	5	-	2	4

Three samples of milk were also obtained for bacteriological examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli with a negative result in each case.

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

54 visits were paid to works under the above Act and the following work carried out:-

Additional sanitary conveniences provided for male and female employees	20
Washing facilities provided	2
Sanitary conveniences provided with intervening ventilated space	2
Sanitary conveniences repaired and provided with proper doors and fasteners	6
Bakehouses limewashed and cleansed	6
Outworkers' premises inspected	12

SHOPS, CANAL BOATS, OFFENSIVE TRADES ETC.

No outstanding irregularities were discovered in course of routine inspection.